

Historic, Archive Document

Do not assume content reflects current scientific knowledge, policies, or practices.

Reserve
1.96
R31Fsn

WATER SUPPLY OUTLOOK FOR NEVADA



PROCUREMENT SECTION
CURRENT SERIAL RECORDS

MAY 14 '76

U.S. DEPT. OF AGRICULTURE
NATL. AGRIC. LIBRARY
RECEIVED

U. S. DEPARTMENT of AGRICULTURE ★ SOIL CONSERVATION SERVICE

Collaborating with

NEVADA DEPARTMENT of CONSERVATION

and NATURAL RESOURCES

DIVISION of WATER RESOURCES

Data included in this report were obtained by the agencies named above in cooperation with Federal, State and private organizations listed inside the back cover of this report.

AS OF
MAY 1, 1976

TO RECIPIENTS OF WATER SUPPLY OUTLOOK REPORTS:

Most of the usable water in western states originates as mountain snowfall. This snowfall accumulates during the winter and spring, several months before the snow melts and appears as streamflow. Since the runoff from precipitation as snow is delayed, estimates of snowmelt runoff can be made well in advance of its occurrence. Streamflow forecasts published in this report are based principally on measurement of the water equivalent of the mountain snowpack.

Forecasts become more accurate as more of the data affecting runoff are measured. All forecasts assume that climatic factors during the remainder of the snow accumulation and melt season will interact with a resultant average effect on runoff. Early season forecasts are therefore subject to a greater change than those made on later dates.

The snow course measurement is obtained by sampling snow depth and water equivalent of surveyed and marked locations in mountain areas. A total of about ten samples are taken at each location. The average of these are reported as snow depth and water equivalent. These measurements are repeated in the same location near the same dates each year.

Snow surveys are made monthly or semi-monthly from January 1 through June 1 in most states. There are about 1900 snow courses in Western United States and in the Columbia Basin in British Columbia. Networks of automatic snow water equivalent and related data sensing devices, along with radio telemetry are expanding and will provide a continuous record of snow water and other parameters at key locations.

Detailed data on snow course and soil moisture measurements are presented in state and local reports. Other data on reservoir storage, summaries of precipitation, current streamflow, and soil moisture conditions at valley elevations are also included. The report for Western United States presents a broad picture of water supply outlook conditions, including selected streamflow forecasts, summary of snow accumulation to date, and storage in larger reservoirs.

Snow survey and soil moisture data for the period of record are published by the Soil Conservation Service by states about every five years. Data for the current year is summarized in a West-wide basic data summary and published about October 1 of each year.

COVER PHOTO: SURVEYOR ENROUTE TO THE MT. BALDY ARIZONA SNOW COURSE
SCS PHOTO AZ-5460

PUBLISHED BY SOIL CONSERVATION SERVICE

The Soil Conservation Service publishes reports following the principal snow survey dates from January 1 through June 1 in cooperation with state water administrators, agricultural experiment stations and others. Copies of the reports for Western United States and all state reports may be obtained from Soil Conservation Service, West Technical Service Center, Room 111, 511 N.W. Broadway, Portland, Oregon 97209.

Copies of state and local reports may also be obtained from state offices of the Soil Conservation Service in the following states:

STATE	ADDRESS
Alaska	204 E. 5th. Ave., Room 217, Anchorage, Alaska 99501
Arizona	6029 Federal Building, Phoenix, Arizona 85025
Colorado (N. Mex.)	P. O. Box 17107, Denver, Colorado 80217
Idaho	Room 345, 304 N. 8th. St., Boise, Idaho 83702
Montana	P. O. Box 98, Bazeman, Montana 59715
Nevada	P. O. Box 4850, Reno Nevada 89505
Oregon	1220 S.W. Third Ave., Portland, Oregon 97204
Utah	4012 Federal Bldg., 125 South State St., Salt Lake City, Utah 84138
Washington	360 U.S. Court House, Spokane, Washington 99201
Wyoming	P. O. Box 2440, Casper, Wyoming 82601

PUBLISHED BY OTHER AGENCIES

Water Supply Outlook reports prepared by other agencies include a report for California by the Water Supply Forecast and Snow Surveys Unit, California Department of Water Resources, P. O. Box 388, Sacramento, California 95802 --- and for British Columbia by the Department of Lands, Forests and Water Resources, Water Resources Service, Parliament Building, Victoria, British Columbia



WATER SUPPLY OUTLOOK FOR NEVADA

and
FEDERAL - STATE - PRIVATE COOPERATIVE SNOW SURVEYS

Issued by

R. M. DAVIS
ADMINISTRATOR
SOIL CONSERVATION SERVICE
WASHINGTON, D.C.

|||||
Released by

GERALD THOLA
STATE CONSERVATIONIST
SOIL CONSERVATION SERVICE
RENO, NEVADA

In Cooperation with

ELMO J. DE RICCO
DIRECTOR
DEPARTMENT OF CONSERVATION AND
NATURAL RESOURCES
CARSON CITY, NEVADA
|||||

Report prepared by

RONALD E. MORELAND , Snow Survey Supervisor
and
JAMES K. MARRON , Assistant Snow Survey Supervisor
SOIL CONSERVATION SERVICE
P. O. BOX 4850
RENO, NEVADA

TABLE OF CONTENTS

WATER SUPPLY OUTLOOK FOR NEVADA.....	1, 2
PROSPECTIVE WATER SUPPLY FOR NEVADA (Map).....	3
INDEX OF NEVADA SNOW COURSES (By Basins).....	4
SNOW WATER DEPTHS (Map).....	5
NEVADA STREAMFLOW FORECASTS.....	6, 7
SPECIAL FORECASTS AND SOIL MOISTURE MEASUREMENTS.....	8
STORAGE STATUS OF NEVADA RESERVOIRS.....	9
SNOW COURSE MEASUREMENTS.....	10, 11
PRECIPITATION MEASUREMENTS.....	12
TELEMETERED SNOW DATA.....	13, 14
LIST OF COOPERATORS.....	Inside Back Cover

ALL AVERAGES ARE FOR 1958-72 PERIOD.

WATER SUPPLY OUTLOOK FOR NEVADA

Streamflow will be very limited on all Sierra streams this season. Dry weather conditions continue throughout the state, so streamflow forecasts are lower than last month's. The Snake River in the northeastern part of the state is the only area that will have average to slightly above average streamflow this season. The Humboldt River and tributaries will have below average flows.

Snow surveys taken for May 1 indicate very little snow except in the higher elevations. Snowpacks range from 10 to 35 percent in the Sierras, 115 percent on the Upper Humboldt and 125 percent on the Snake River. All other areas are below average.

Reservoir storage in major reservoirs is 110 percent of the 1958-72 average. This storage will be required to supplement water supplies this summer.

East Slope Sierra Nevada

Water supplies from streamflow will be very limited this season. Streamflow forecasts are near minimum record. Continued dry conditions have lowered forecasts from last month. May 1 snow surveys indicate snowpack only in the high elevation zones with the Truckee basin having 36 percent of average, Tahoe 20 percent, Carson 32 percent and the Walker being less than 10 percent. Streamflow for April was less than 50 percent on most streams. Last year's snowpack ranged from 165 to 215 percent on the Sierras.

Streamflow forecasts for the May 1 through July 31 period are now the lowest of the season. Lake Tahoe rise is forecast at .30 feet, May 1 to high compared to 1.09 average. The Truckee River at Farad is forecast at 75,000 acre-feet; the Carson River at Carson City is 50,000 acre-feet and the East Walker and West Walker at 16,000 and 55,000 acre-feet respectively.

Reservoir storage is excellent. Lahontan contains 221,000 acre-feet, near average while Lake Tahoe contains 471,000 acre-feet, only slightly below average. Boca Reservoir is slightly above and Stampede contains 124,000 acre-feet. Much of this storage will be used to supplement streamflows for water requirements this summer.

Humboldt and Owyhee Drainages

Snowpack conditions are excellent in Owyhee basin with 125 percent. The Upper Humboldt has 115 percent snowpack. All the snow is in the higher elevation zones. However, precipitation at the lower elevations continues to be below normal, as has been the case since November 1975.

Streamflow forecasts are near average on the Owyhee. The Humboldt River at Palisades is forecast at 65 percent while the tributaries range from 88 percent on Lamoille Creek to 50 percent on Martin Creek, generally decreasing from east to west.

Rye Patch Reservoir contains 163,000 acre-feet for 152 percent of average. Wild Horse Reservoir contains 69,000 acre-feet for 230 percent of average.

Northern Great Basin

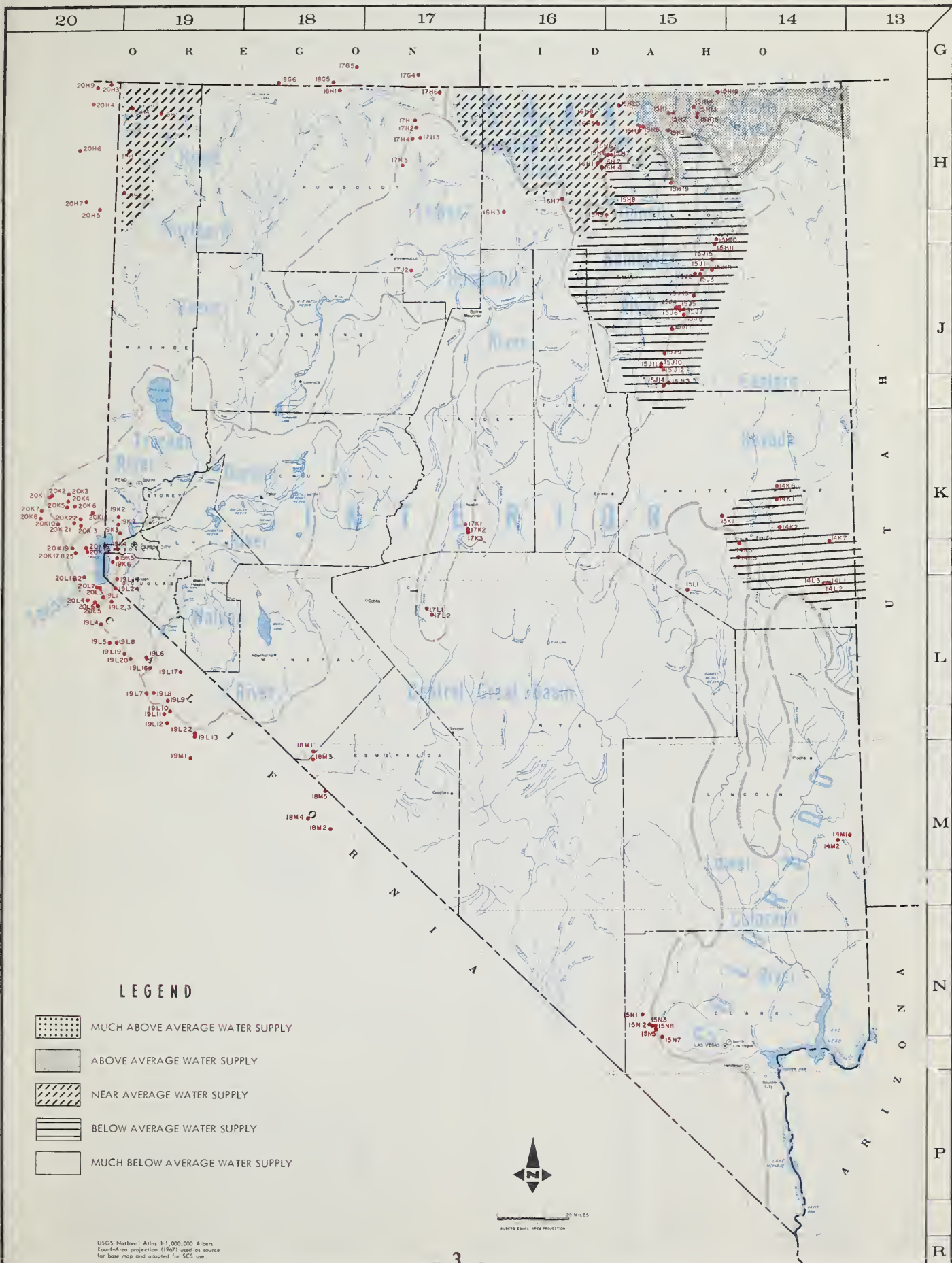
The Surprise Valley area streamflow forecasts are near average to slightly above. Forecasts have been lowered slightly because of below normal precipitation for the month.

Eastern and Central Nevada

Snowpacks continue only on the higher elevations. Continued dry weather will cause water supplies to be below average in these areas.



PROSPECTIVE WATER SUPPLY FOR NEVADA



INDEX TO NEVADA SNOW COURSES (By Basins)

Refer to the map on the preceeding page for Snow Course locations.

NUMBER	NAME	SEC.	TWP.	RGE.	ELEV.
SNAKE RIVER BASIN					
SNAKE RIVER					
15H1MA	Bear Creek	31	46N	58E	7800
15H2	Fox Creek	33	46N	58E	6800
15H13A	Goat Creek	31	46N	60E	8800
15H15A	Hummingbird Springs	6	45N	60E	8945
15H20a	Merritt Mountain	10	46N	54E	7000
15H14A	Pole Creek Ranger Station	13	46N	59E	8330
15H18a	Red Point	15	47N	61E	7940
15H3A	76 Creek	6	44N	58E	7100
15H19a	5tag Mountain	29	41N	58E	7800

OWYHEE RIVER					
15H4MP	Big Bend	30	45N	56E	6700
16H6a	Columbia Basin	31	44N	53E	6650
16H8a	Fawn Creek	2	45N	52E	7000
15H5	Gold Creek	32	45N	56E	6600
16H1M	Jack Creek, Lower	18	42N	53E	6800
16H2A	Jack Creek, Upper	9	42N	53E	7250
16H4	Jacks Peak	28	42N	53E	8420
16H5	Laurel Draw	20	45N	53E	6700
17G4a	Louse Canyon (Oreg.)	27	40S	44E	6440
15H9MP	Taylor Canyon	35	39N	53E	6200

INTERIOR

UPPER HUMBOLDT RIVER					
15J17a	American Beauty	32	31N	58E	7800
15J12A	Corral Canyon	27	28N	57E	8500
15J1MP	Oorsey Basin	28	35N	60E	8100
15J3	Ory Creek	5	34N	60E	6500
15H7	Fry Canyon	31	43N	54E	6700
15J9MP	Green Mountain	23	29N	57E	8000
15J10	Harrison Pass #1	9	28N	57E	6600
15J11	Harrison Pass #2	16	28N	57E	7400
15J4	Lamoille #1	15	32N	58E	7100
15J5	Lamoille #2	14	32N	58E	7200
15J6M	Lamoille #3	24	32N	58E	7700
15J7	Lamoille #4	19	32N	59E	8000
15J8P	Lamoille #5	31	32N	59E	8700
15J18a	Pole Canyon	31	35N	61E	9140
15J16a	Robinson Lake	23	33N	59E	9200
15H6MP	Roded Flat	36	43N	53E	6800
15J2	Ryan Ranch	1	34N	59E	5800
15H8	Tremewan Ranch	9	39N	55E	5700
15H10P	Trout Creek, Lower	28	37N	61E	6900
15H11A	Trout Creek, Upper	4	36N	61E	8500

LOWER HUMBOLDT RIVER					
17K1	Big Creek Camp Ground	10	17N	43E	6600
17K2	Big Creek Mine	23	17N	43E	7600
17K3	Big Creek, Upper	26	17N	43E	7800
17H2	Buckskin, Lower	25	45N	39E	6700
17H1	Buckskin, Upper	11	45N	39E	8200
17L1	Corral, Lower	12	11N	40E	7500
17L2	Corral, Upper	20	11N	41E	8000
17J2	Golconda #2	22	35N	39E	6000
17H4	Granite Peak	22	44N	39E	7800
17H5	Lamance Creek	13	42N	38E	6000
17H3	Martin Creek	18	44N	40E	6700
16H3AP	Midas	18	39N	46E	7200
16H7	Toe Jam a	29	40N	50E	7700

EASTERN NEVADA

14L1	Baker #1	29	13N	69E	7950
14L2	Baker #2	30	13N	69E	8950
14L3	Baker #3	25	13N	68E	9250
14K2	Berry Creek	26	17N	65E	9100
14K1	Bird Creek	34	19N	65E	7500
15J13	Cave Creek	25	27N	57E	7500
15J14	Hager Canyon	34	27N	57E	8000
15J15	Hole-In-Mountain	6	35N	61E	7900
14K8	Kalamazoo Creek	34	20N	65E	7400
14K3	Murray Summit	25	16N	62E	7250
15K1	Robinson Summit	34	18N	61E	7600
14K7	Silver Creek #2	30	16N	69E	8000
14K5	Ward Mountain #2	25	15N	62E	8900

CENTRAL GREAT BASIN

18M2	Campito Mountain (Cal.)	19	5S	35E	10200
18M5a	Chiatovich Flat	32	2S	34E	10500
15N2	Clark Canyon	8	19S	56E	9000
18M1	Montgomery Pass	4	1N	33E	7100
18M3a	Pinchot Creek	28	1N	33E	9300
18M4a	Piute Pass (Cal.)	33	4S	33E	11700
15N1	Trough Springs	23	18S	55E	8500

NORTHERN GREAT BASIN

19H1	Bald Mountain	17	45N	21E	6720
20H5	Barber Creek (Cal.)	23	39N	16E	6500
20H6	Cedar Pass (Cal.)	12	43N	14E	7100
18G6a	Oenio Creek (Oreg.)	14	41S	34E	6000
18H1	Olisaster Peak	8	47N	34E	6500
20H3a	Oismal Swamp (Cal.)	31	48N	17E	7000
20H7	Eagle Peak (Cal.)	35	40N	15E	7200
19H3	49-Mountain	7	42N	19E	6000
19H2	Hays Canyon	1	39N	18E	6400
19H4a	Little Bally Mountain	8	45N	19E	6000
20H9	Mt. Bidwell	6	47N	16E	7200
17G5a	Oregon Canyon (Oreg.)	9	40S	40E	7240
17H6a	Quinn Ridge	9	47N	41E	6300
20H4	Reservation Creek (Cal.)	12	46N	15E	5900
18G5a	Trout Creek (Oreg.)	10	41S	38E	7800

NUMBER	NAME	SEC.	TWP.	RGE.	ELEV.
LAKE TAHOE					
20L6STZ	Echo Peak	35	12N	17E	7800
20L5	Echo Summit (Cal.)	6	11N	18E	7450
20L7stz	Fallen Leaf (Cal.)	36	13N	17E	6300
19L2	Freel Bench (Cal.)	36	12N	18E	7300
19K6	Glenbrook #2	13	14N	18E	6900
19L3M5Z	Hagans Meadow (Cal.)	36	12N	18E	8000
20L4	Lake Lucille (Cal.)	28	12N	17E	8200
19K4M5TZ	Marlette Lake	18	15N	19E	8000
20L3	Richardsons #2 (Cal.)	6	12N	18E	6500
20L1	Rubicon #1 (Cal.)	6	13N	17E	8100
20L2	Rubicon #2 (Cal.)	6	13N	17E	7500
20K16	Tahoe City (Cal.)	6	15N	17E	6250
20K26	Tahoe City Alt. (Cal.)	7	15N	17E	6300
20K27	Tahoe City Cross (Cal.)	1	15N	16E	6750
19L1	Upper Truckee (Cal.)	21	12N	18E	6400
20K17M	Ward Creek (Cal.)	21	15N	16E	7000
20K25TZ	Ward Creek #2 (Cal.)	21	15N	16E	6750

TRUCKEE RIVER

20K14	Boca #2 (Cal.)	28	18N	17E	5900
20K22	Brockway Summit (Cal.)	3	17N	16E	7100
20K21	Donner Park #2 (Cal.)	18	17N	16E	6000
20K10	Donner Summit (Cal.)	25	17N	14E	6900
20K8*	Fordyce Lake (Cal.)	34	18N	13E	6500
20K4M5TPZ	Furnace Flat (Cal.)	10	17N	13E	6700
20K3	Independence Camp (Cal.)	34	19N	15E	7000
20K5	Independence Creek (Cal.)	14	19N	15E	6500
19K3	Independence Lake (Cal.)	9	18N	15E	8450
19K2	Little Valley	17	16N	19E	6300
19K7	Mt. Rose	7	17N	19E	9000
20K6	Mt. Rose Ski Area	30	17N	19E	9000
20K19	Sage Hen Creek (Cal.)	7	18N	16E	6500
20K13M	Squaw Valley #2 (Cal.)	6	15N	16E	7500
20K2*	Truckee #2 (Cal.)	22	17N	16E	6400
20K1*	Webber Lake (Cal.)	29	19N	14E	7000
	Webber Peak (Cal.)	30	19N	14E	8000

CARSON RIVER

19L5	Blue Lakes (Cal.)	30	9N	19E	8000
19L4	Carson Pass, Upper (Cal.)	22	10N	18E	8600
19K5	Clear Creek	6	14N	19E	7300
19L19a	Ebbetts Pass (Cal.)	17	8N	20E	8700
19L16a	Fish Valley, Upper (Cal.)	1	7N	22E	8050
19L06a	Poison Flat (Cal.)	25	8N	21E	7900
19L18A5	Wet Meadows Lake (Cal.)	26	9N	19E	8100
19L20a	Wolf Creek (Cal.)	35	8N	20E	8000

WALKER RIVER

19L11	Buckeye Forks (Cal.)	20	4N	23E	8500
19L10	Buckeye Roughs (Cal.)	15	4N	23E	7900
19L12A	Center Mountain (Cal.)	4	3N	23E	9400
19L8	Leavitt Meadows (Cal.)	4	5N	22E	7200
19L17a	Lobdell Lake (Cal.)	20	7N	24E	9200
19L7M	Sonora Pass (Cal.)	1	5N	21E	8800
19M1*	Tioga Pass (Cal.)	30	1N	25E	9900
19L13	Virginia Lakes (Cal.)	5	2N	25E	9500
19L22MSZ	Virginia Lakes Ridge	32	3N	25E	9200
19L9	Willow Flat (Cal.)	21	5N	23E	8250

COLORADO

LOWER COLORADO RIVER

15N5	Kyle Canyon	27	19S	56E	8200
15N3	Lee Canyon #2	9	19S	56E	9200
15N8	Lee Canyon #3	10	19S	56E	8500
14M1	Mathew Canyon	10	6S	70E	6000
14M2	Pine Canyon	23	6S	69E	6200
15N7	Rainbow Canyon #2	6	20S	57E	8100
15L1	White River #1	31	13N	59E	7400

LEGEND

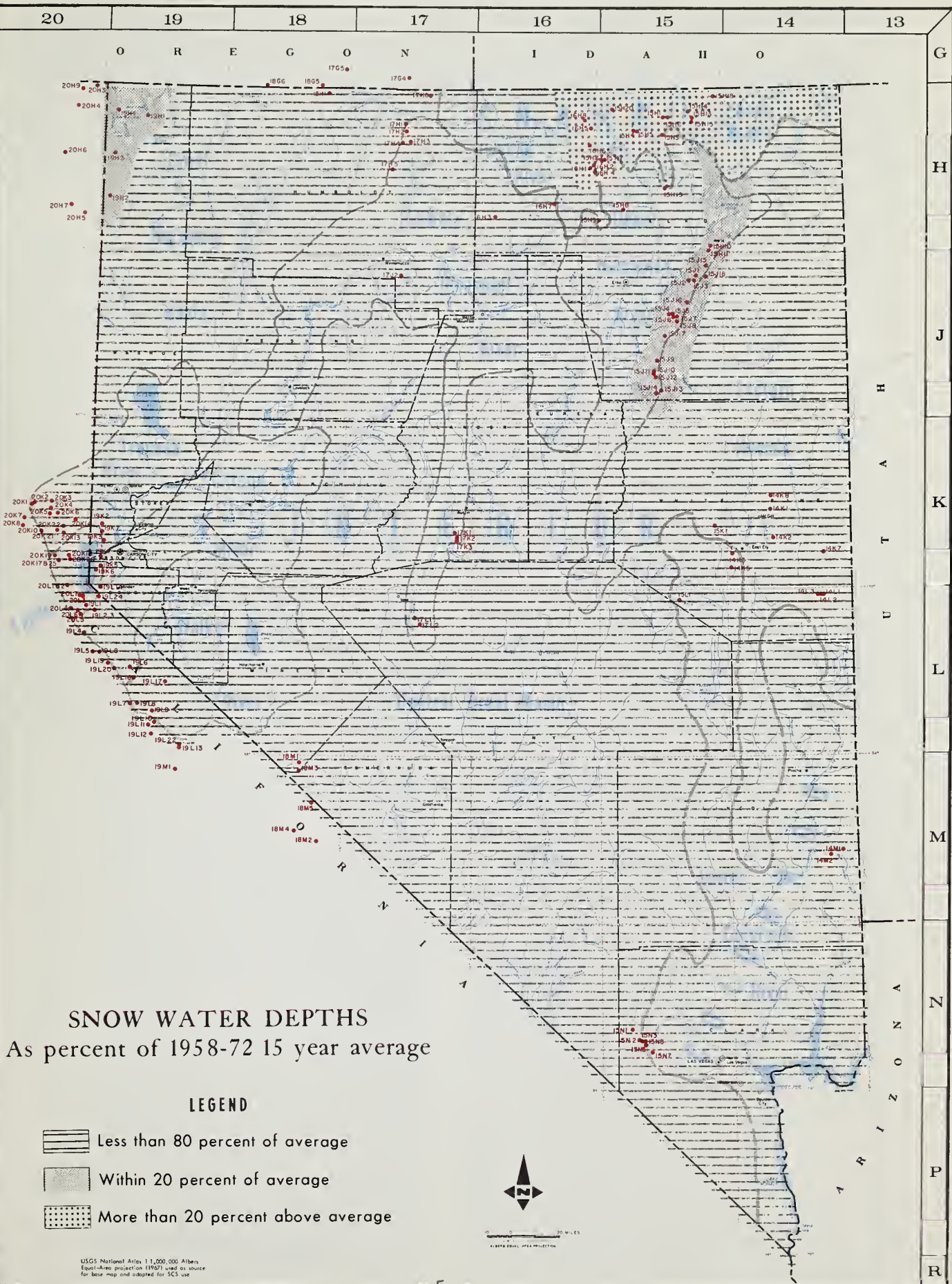
NUMBERING SYSTEM (EXAMPLE)

19K4	Snow Course Only
19K45	Snow Course and Snow Pillow
19K4M	Snow Course and Soil Moisture
19K4A	Snow Course and Aerial Marker
19K4P	Snow Course and Storage Precipitation Gage
19K4MA	Snow Course, Soil Moisture and Aerial Marker
19K4MP	Snow Course, Soil Moisture and Precipitation Gage
19K45TZ	Snow Course, Snow Pillow and Temperature Radio Telemetered.

Lower case letters m, a, p, s, t, z, indicate no snow course, only a Soil Moisture Station, Aerial Marker, Storage Precipitation Gage, Snow Pillow, Temperature, or Radio Telemetered.

*Located on adjacent watershed

SNOW WATER DEPTHS



STREAMFLOW FORECASTS (Thousand Acre Feet) as of: May 1, 1976

Forecasts are based on snow-water presently stored in the mountain watersheds and the assumption that precipitation will be near average throughout the forecast period. Peak flow forecasts indicate the most probable range for the maximum average 24-hour flow. All averages are for 1958-72 period.

FORECAST POINT	Forecast Period	Forecast This Year	This Year as Percent of Average	Average ⁺
<u>TRUCKEE RIVER</u>				
Little Truckee River above Boca, CA ¹	May-July	20	31	65
Truckee River at Farad, CA ¹	May-July	75	38	199
Lake Tahoe Rise in Feet (from May 1, assuming gates closed)	May-High	.30	28	1.09
<u>CARSON RIVER</u>				
East Carson near Gardnerville, NV	May-July	65	43	150
West Carson at Woodfords, CA	May-July	18	44	41
Carson River near Carson City, NV	May-July	50	34	146
Carson River at Fort Churchill, NV	May-July	40	31	131
<u>WALKER RIVER</u>				
East Walker near Bridgeport, CA ¹	May-Aug.	16	27	59
West Walker below Little Walker near Coleville, CA	May-July	55	43	129
<u>HUMBOLDT RIVER</u>				
Lamoille Creek near Lamoille, NV	May-July	23	88	26
South Fork Humboldt near Elko, NV	May-July	40	70	57
Marys River above Hot Springs, NV	May-July	17	71	24
North Fork Humboldt at Devils Gate, NV	May-July	15	75	20
Humboldt River at Palisade, NV	May-July	97	65	149
Humboldt River at Comus, NV	May-July	65	57	113
Martin Creek near Paradise, NV	May-July	5	50	10

M7-L-22025M

STREAMFLOW FORECASTS (Thousand Acre Feet) as of: May 1, 1976

Forecasts are based on snow-water presently stored in the mountain watersheds and the assumption that precipitation will be near average throughout the forecast period. Peak flow forecasts indicate the most probable range for the maximum average 24-hour flow. All averages are for 1958-72 period.

FORECAST POINT	Forecast Period	Forecast This Year	This Year as Percent of Average	Average +
<u>SNAKE RIVER</u>				
Owyhee River near Owyhee, NV ¹	May-July	41	100	41
Owyhee River near Gold Creek, NV ¹	May-July	9	113	8
Salmon Falls Creek near San Jacinto, NV	May-July	65	130	50
	May-Sept.	70	130	54
<u>SURPRISE VALLEY</u>				
Bidwell Creek near Ft. Bidwell, CA	May-July	7	78	9.0
Mill Creek near Cedarville, CA	May-July	3.9	111	3.5
Deep Creek near Cedarville, CA	May-July	2.9	132	2.2
Eagle Creek near Eagleville, CA	May-July	4.2	111	3.8
<u>COLORADO RIVER</u>				
Virgin River at Virgin, UT	May-June	26	93	28
¹ Corrected for storage				

+ 1958-1972 period.

PEAK FLOWS (MAXIMUM MEAN DAILY) (Av. flow for 24 hrs. on day of greatest flow)

May 1, 1976

FORECAST POINT	PEAK FLOW (SECOND FEET)	
	Forecast Range	Average †
East Fork Carson River near Gardnerville, NV	700 - 900	1728
Carson River near Carson City, NV	550 - 750	1901
Carson River at Fort Churchill, NV	350 - 550	1730
West Walker River below Little Walker near Coleville, CA	700 - 900	1532

FORECAST DATE of LOW FLOW VALUES

FORECAST POINT	Low Flow Value Second/Ft.	Forecast Date Stream Will Recede to Low Flow Value	Average Date of Low Flow Value
East Carson River near Gardnerville, NV	200	6/20	7/20

SOIL MOISTURE MEASUREMENTS

STATION	Profile (Inches)		Soil Moisture (Inches)		
	Depth	Capacity	Date	This Year	Average †
<u>OWYHEE-HUMBOLDT BASIN</u>					
Bear Creek	72	16.9	NS	-	-
Big Bend	48	16.7	4/28	15.8	15.6*
Rodeo Flat	42	11.0	4/28	4.8	9.8*
Taylor Canyon	48	15.1	4/28	12.2	14.0*
<u>TAHOE-TRUCKEE BASIN</u>					
Independence Camp	34	6.1	4/27	2.5	4.3*
Marlette Lake	50	3.7	4/27	1.3	3.0*
<u>WALKER BASIN</u>					
Sonora Pass	48	8.3	NS	-	8.2*
Virginia Lakes Ridge	40	5.0	5/1	3.3	3.9*
*Adjusted Average					

RESERVOIR STORAGE (Thousand Acre Feet) as of May 1, 1976

Basin or Stream	RESERVOIR	Usable Capacity	Usable Storage		
			This Year	Last Year	Average†
Owyhee	Wild Horse	72	69	57	30
Lower Humboldt	Rye Patch	157	163	130	107
Colorado	Mohave	1,810	1,656	1,547	1,693
Colorado	Mead	26,159	20,099	19,383	16,943
Tahoe	Tahoe	732	471	553	480
Truckee	Boca	41	32	37	27
Truckee	Prosser**	30	10	7	8*
Truckee	Stampede	220	124	166	***
Carson	Lahontan	291	221	250	219
West Walker	Topaz	59	47	51	40
East Walker	Bridgeport	42	36	39	31

* Adjusted average
 ** Flood control use allocation of 20,000 acre feet between November 1 and April 10.
 *** Storage began August 1, 1969.

TOTAL RESERVOIR STORAGE (Thousand Acre Feet)

MONTH	This Year	Last Year	Average †
October 1	1037	961	718
January 1	1005	900	714
February 1	1015	936	782
March 1	1048	1,040	843
April 1	1048	1,134	893
May 1	1037	1,117	934

† 1958-1972 period.

The above data developed from Wild Horse, Rye Patch, Tahoe, Boca, Lahontan, Topaz, and Bridgeport Reservoirs in 1,000 Acre-Feet.

TOTAL USABLE CAPACITY 1,394

SNOW COURSE MEASUREMENTS May 1, 1976

DRAINAGE BASIN and/or SNOW COURSE		THIS YEAR			PAST RECORD	
		Date of Survey	Snow Depth (Inches)	Water Content (Inches)	Water Content (inches)	
NAME	Elevation				Last Year	Average †
<u>LAKE TAHOE</u>						
Echo Peak (CA)	7800	5/1/76	3	1.3	-	-
Echo Summit (CA)	7450	4/30/76	13	5.3	51.0	24.2
Fallen Leaf (CA)	6240	4/27/76	0	0.0	-	-
Freel Bench (CA)	7300	4/27	0	0.0	20.4	6.3*
Hagans Meadow (CA)	8000	4/27/76	0	0.0	31.0	12.4*
Heavenly Valley	8800	4/27/76	25	9.2	44.0	-
Marlette Lake	8000	4/27/76	13	4.7	33.5	21.6*
Upper Truckee (CA)	6400	4/27/76	0	0.0	12.2	-
Ward Creek #2 (CA)	7000	4/27/76	29	11.3	56.3	40.1
Ward Creek #3 (CA)	6750	4/27/76	35	14.9	58.3	-
<u>TRUCKEE RIVER</u>						
Donner Summit (CA)	6900	4/26/76	20	8.8	59.3	30.7
Fordyce Lake (CA)	6500	4/26/76	25	10.8	62.8	36.9*
Furnace Flat (CA)	6700	4/26/76	43	17.8	76.4	43.1
Independence Camp (CA)	7000	4/27/76	5	2.0	35.3	18.1*
Independence Creek (CA)	6500	4/27/76	0	0.0	21.2	7.3*
Independence Lake (CA)	8450	4/27/76	55	22.3	55.6	47.0*
Mount Rose	9000	4/27/76	33	14.0	-	-
Mount Rose Ski Area	8850	4/27/76	44	17.7	53.3	-
Squaw Valley #2 (CA)	7500	4/27/76	55	23.3	64.3	51.4*
<u>CARSON RIVER</u>						
Blue Lakes (CA)	8000	4/22/76	34	13.6	46.8	32.3
Carson Pass, Upper (CA)	8600	4/27/76	16	7.2	49.0	33.3
Ebbetts Pass (CA)	8700	5/1/76	33	14.0	-	-
Poison Flat (CA)	7900	5/1/76	0	0.0	24.8	-
Wet Meadows #2 (CA)	8050	5/1/76	24	8.8	52.3	-
Wolf Creek (CA)	8000	5/1/76	0	0.0	-	-
Upper Fish Valley (CA)	8050	5/1/76	0	0.0	-	-
<u>WALKER RIVER</u>						
Lobdell Lake (CA)	9200	5/1/76	0	0.0	-	-
Sawmill Ridge (CA)	8750	5/1/76	0	0.0	-	-
Sonora Pass (CA)	8800	5/1/76	0	0.0	36.0	19.1
Virginia Lakes (CA)	9500	5/1/76	0	0.0	19.7	14.2*
Virginia Lakes Ridge (CA)	9200	5/1/76	13	4.1	22.7	-
<u>NORTHERN GREAT BASIN</u>						
Cedar Pass (CA)	7100	4/28/76	40	16.5	32.5	11.1

† 1958-1972 period.

SNOW COURSE MEASUREMENTS May 1, 1976

DRAINAGE BASIN and/or SNOW COURSE NAME	THIS YEAR			PAST RECORD	
	Date of Survey	Snow Depth (inches)	Water Content (inches)	Last Year	Average †

OWYHEE RIVER

Big Bend	6700	4/28/76	10	3.1	16.6	1.3
Gold Creek	6600	4/28/76	2	0.5	10.0	0.3
Jack Creek, Lower	6800	4/28/76	2	0.4	9.1	0.1
Jack Creek, Upper	7250	4/28/76	12	3.7	18.8	3.4
Jacks Peak	8420	4/28/76	84	31.3	42.1	26.7
Taylor Canyon	6200	4/28/76	0	0.0	7.0	0.1

SNAKE RIVER

Bear Creek	7800	4/28/76	71	26.8	32.6a	20.1
Goat Creek	8800	4/28/76	71	24.4a	27.5	19.7
Hummingbird Springs	8945	4/28/76	96	35.0a	41.3a	27.7
Pole Creek Ranger Station	8330	4/26/76	80	27.4	34.6	22.6
Red Point	7940	4/28/76	10	3.6	18.4a	9.1*
76 Creek	7100	4/28/76	25	8.1	-	-

UPPER HUMBOLDT RIVER

Dorsey Basin	8100	4/28/76	40	12.9	-	-
Fry Canyon	6700	4/28/76	1	0.1	11.7	1.1
Lamoille #1	7100	4/28/76	15	4.5	18.2	1.9*
Lamoille #3	7700	4/28/76	29	8.9	23.5	7.1*
Lamoille #5	8700	4/28/76	74	29.5	42.3	26.7*
Rodeo Flat	6800	4/28/76	3	0.9	11.6	1.1
Tremewan Ranch	5700	4/28/76	0	0.0	0.0	0.0

EASTERN NEVADA

Berry Creek	9100	NS			18.4	15.4
-------------	------	----	--	--	------	------

ADDITIONAL DATA

Fallen Leaf	3/1/76	21	3.0
Jacks Peak	2/23/76	64	20.6
Chiatovich Flat	3/5/76	8	2.4
Pinchot Creek	3/5/76	2	0.5
Piute Pass	3/5/76	6	2.0

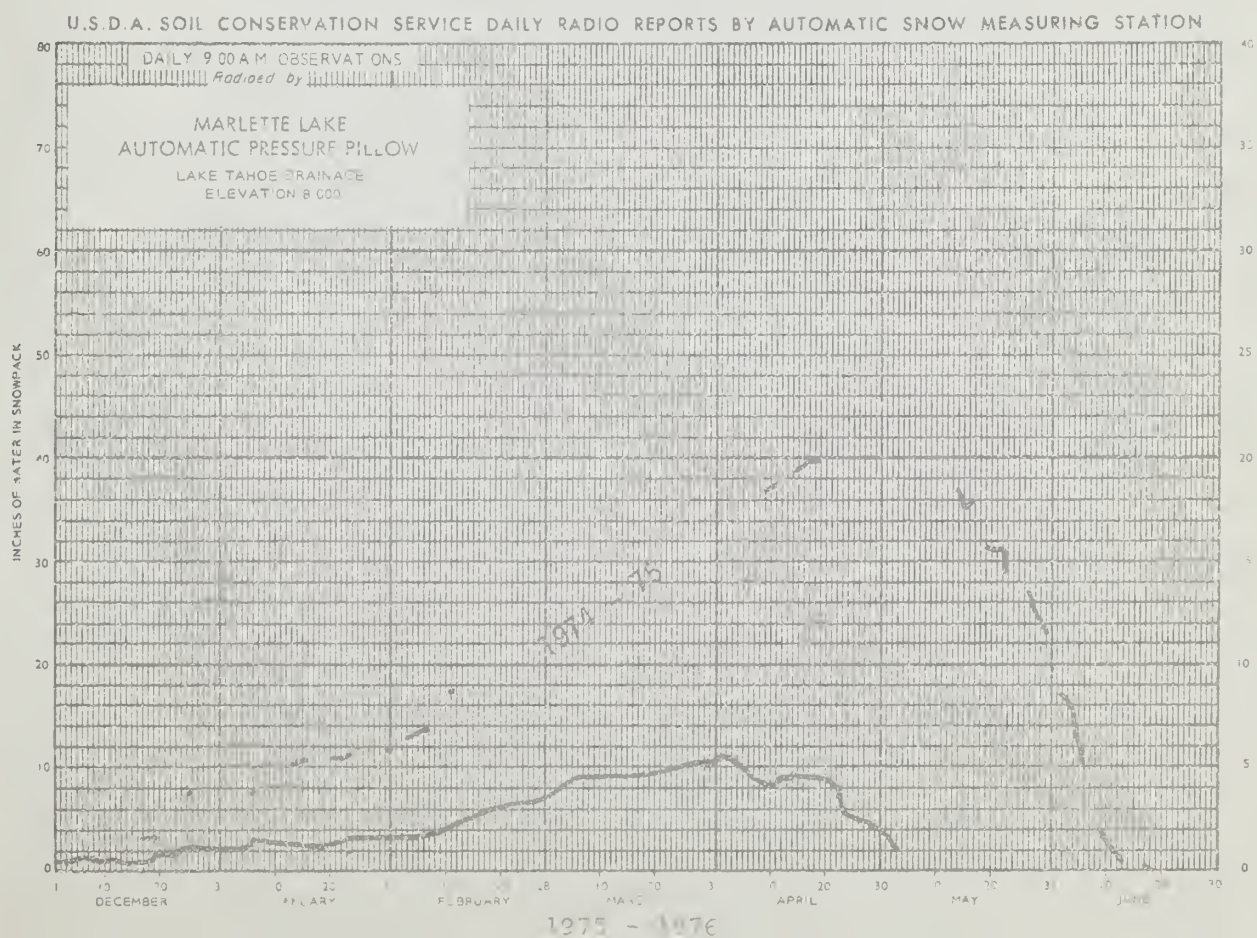
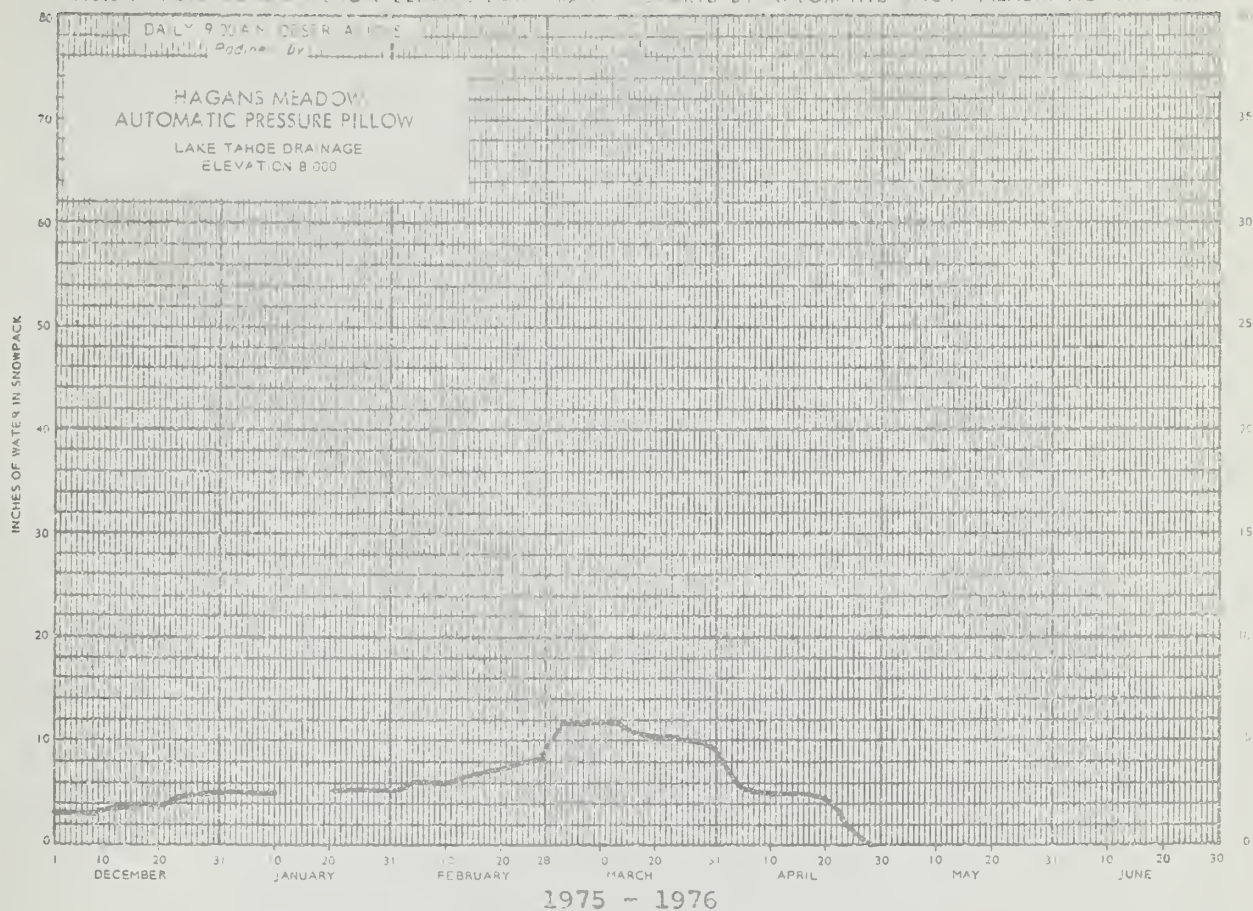
NS No Survey
a Aerial Marker - Water Content Estimated

NOTE:
All averages based on 1958-72, 15 year period. Forecast period is April 1 through July 31 unless otherwise noted.
a-Aerial marker; water content estimated. * 1958-72 adjusted average.

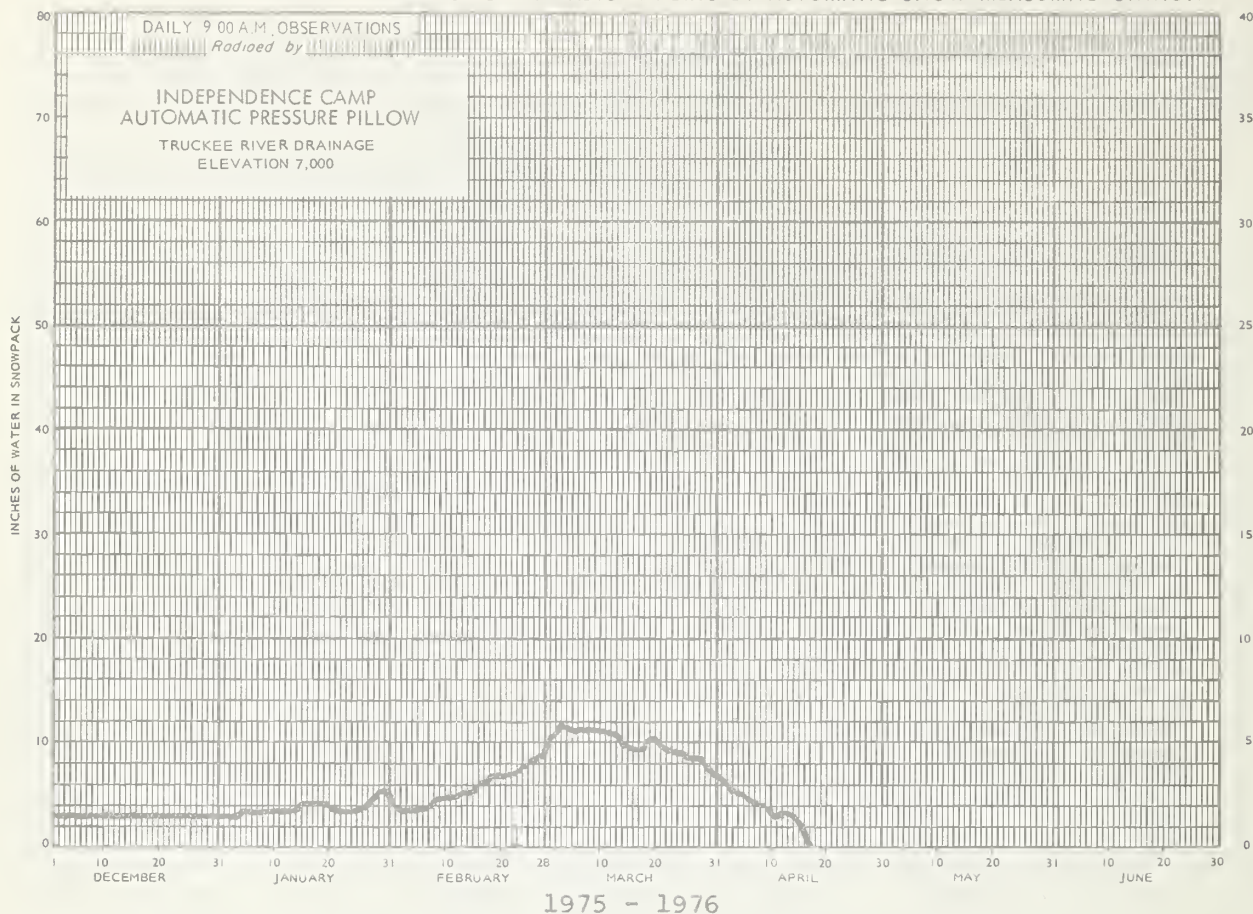
PRECIPITATION DATA (Inches)

May 1, 1976

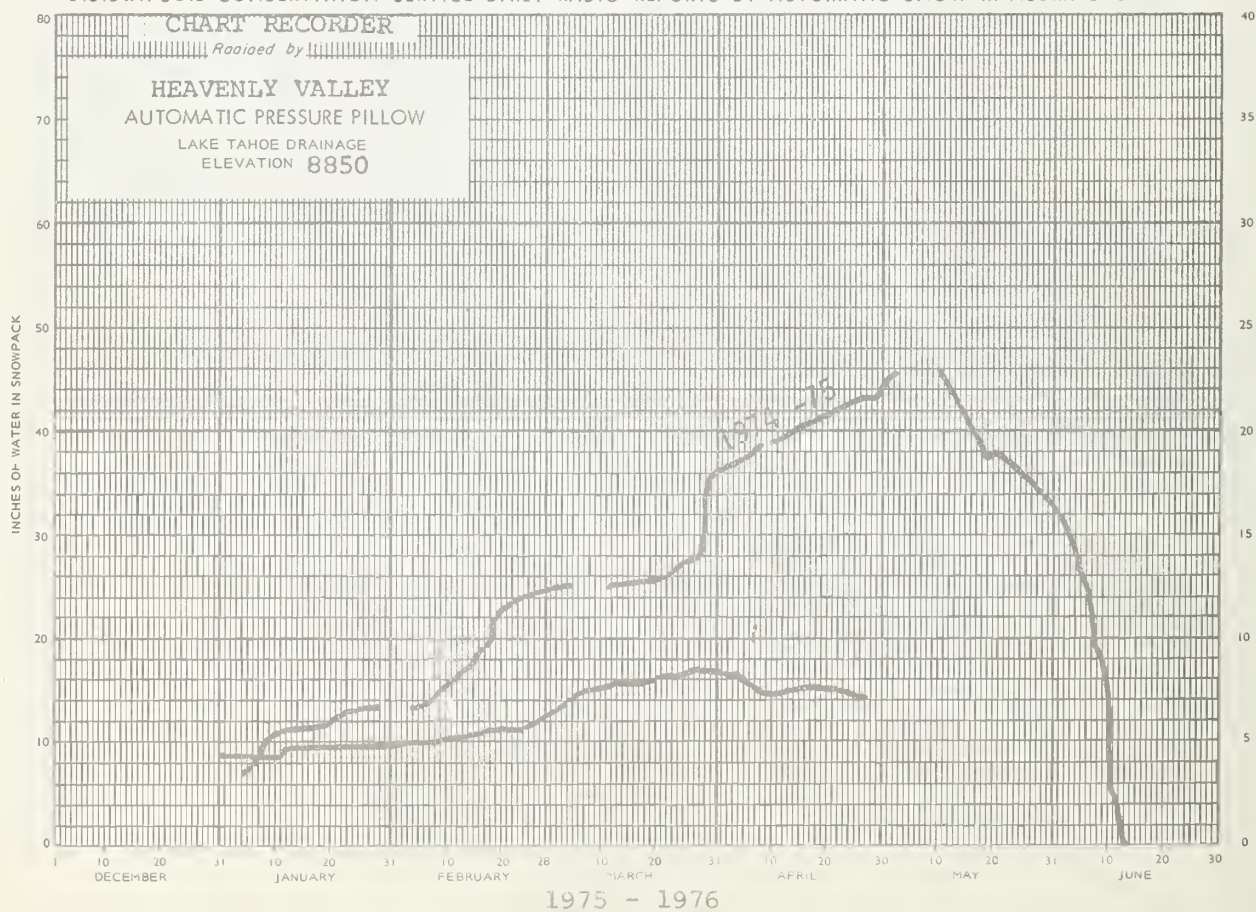
DRAINAGE BASIN and PRECIPITATION GAGE LOCATION	ELEVATION	CURRENT INFORMATION			FROM APPROX. OCT 1 TO DATE		
		Date of Reading	Month's Precipitation	Average +	This Year	Average +	Percent of Average
<u>LAKE TAHOE-TRUCKEE</u>							
Echo Peak	7800	5/1/76	2.2	-	26.0	-	-
Fallen Leaf	6240	4/28/76	3.9	-	15.8	-	-
Independence Camp	7000	4/27/76	1.8	-	15.9	-	-
Independence Creek	6500	4/27/76	0.7	-	8.7	-	-
Marlette Lake	8000	4/27/76	0.6	-	13.9	-	-
Mount Rose	9000	4/27/76	1.1	-	16.8	-	-
Ward Creek #3	6750	4/27/76	3.4	-	34.1	-	-
<u>CARSON RIVER</u>							
Ebbetts Pass	8750	5/1/76	1.6	-	22.2	-	-
Poison Flat	7900	5/1/76	0.7	-	14.0	-	-
Wet Meadows	8050	5/1/76	0.1	-	12.2	-	-
<u>WALKER RIVER</u>							
Sonora Pass	8800	5/1/76	2.4	-	16.9	-	-
<u>HUMBOLDT RIVER</u>							
Rodeo Flat	6800	4/28/76	1.5	1.7	16.0	13.7	117
Dorsey Basin	8100	4/28/76	5.0	-	7.5	-	-
<u>OWYHEE RIVER</u>							
Big Bend	6700	4/28/76	1.8	1.1	14.5	13.5	107
Taylor Canyon	6200	4/28/76	1.0	1.5	9.5	9.6	99
<u>SNAKE RIVER</u>							
76 Creek	7100	4/28/76	2.2	-	15.4	-	-
Bear Creek	7800	4/28/76	3.1	-	22.4	-	-
+ Average of Available Data							



U.S.D.A. SOIL CONSERVATION SERVICE DAILY RADIO REPORTS BY AUTOMATIC SNOW MEASURING STATION



U.S.D.A. SOIL CONSERVATION SERVICE DAILY RADIO REPORTS BY AUTOMATIC SNOW MEASURING STATION



Agencies Cooperating in Collecting Data Contained in this Bulletin

FEDERAL

- Agricultural Research Service
- Bureau of Reclamation
- Fish and Wildlife Service
- Forest Service
- Geological Survey
- Navy
- Soil Conservation Service
- U. S. District Court - Federal Water Master
- NOAA, National Weather Service

STATE

- California Cooperative Snow Surveys
- California Department of Parks and Recreation
- California Department of Water Resources
- Colorado River Commission of Nevada
- Idaho Cooperative Snow Surveys
- Nevada Association of Conservation Districts
- Nevada Department of Conservation & Natural Resources
 - Division of Water Resources
 - Nevada State Forester
- Oregon Cooperative Snow Surveys
- Utah Cooperative Snow Surveys
- White Mountain Research Station, Univ. of California

PRIVATE

- Amalgamated Sugar Company
- Kennecott Copper Corporation
- Nevada Irrigation District
- Owyhee Project North Board of Control
- Owyhee Project South Board of Control
- Pacific Gas and Electric Company
- Pershing County Water Conservation District
- Sierra Pacific Power Company
- Truckee-Carson Irrigation District
- Walker River Irrigation District
- Washoe County Water Conservancy District

Other organizations and individuals furnish valuable information for the snow survey reports. Their Cooperation is gratefully acknowledged.

UNITED STATES DEPARTMENT OF AGRICULTURE
SOIL CONSERVATION SERVICE

P.O. BOX 4850
RENO, NEVADA 89505

OFFICIAL BUSINESS
PENALTY FOR PRIVATE USE, \$300

POSTAGE AND FEES PAID
U. S. DEPARTMENT OF
AGRICULTURE
AGR-101



FIRST CLASS MAIL

**FEDERAL - STATE - PRIVATE
COOPERATIVE SNOW SURVEYS**

Furnishes the basic data
necessary for forecasting
water supply for irrigation,
domestic and municipal water
supply, hydro-electric power
generation, navigation,
mining and industry

*"The Conservation of Water begins
with the Snow Survey"*